



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Child Molestation Arrest**

**SANTA BARBARA, CA – July 27, 2012**

Carlos Albert Seijas, 42-years old, of Santa Barbara, was arrested on July 19, 2012, for the felonies of child molestation of a child 14 or 15 years of age by a person at least 10 years older, oral copulation with a person under the age of 16 by a person over 21 years of age, and penetration with a foreign object (digital penetration) with a person under the age of 16 by a person over 21 years of age.

On July 16, 2012, at 11:23 a.m., SBPD Officer Eric Beecher and Officer Aaron Denbrook responded to the lobby of the Police Department on a call of a child molestation investigation. Upon arrival they met the victim, a 14-year old girl, who was with her mother. The victim and her mother are from Oakland and occasionally come to Santa Barbara to visit the girl's grandmother.

Officer Beecher's and Officer Denbrook's investigation revealed the following. On July 14, 2012, at approximately 8:00 p.m., the victim left her grandmother's residence, near downtown, to walk on State Street and go to the wharf. The victim stated she was bored and wanted to look for someone she had met earlier. While on 500 State Street the victim was befriended by Seijas, who agreed to go to the wharf and spend time with her. While walking there Seijas purchased a bottle of vodka and a sports beverage to mix with it. The two went to the beach underneath the wharf and there consumed the alcohol and talked. The victim divulged to Seijas that she was 14-years old and he initially told her that he was 29-years old. When further questioned about his age he stated that he was 38-years old. By 10:00 p.m. the victim was heavily intoxicated.

Underneath the wharf the victim and Seijas engaged in consensual kissing and fondling. The victim told Seijas that she did not want to have sex on the beach and wanted to go somewhere that had a roof. She further stated that she wanted to go to a house and be indoors for the night. Seijas offered to take her to his residence and the victim agreed. At approximately 11:00 p.m. they left the beach and walked to Seijas's residence at 1226 E. Montecito Street. The victim recalled that she was so intoxicated that she had to lean on Seijas to continue walking.

Once at Seijas's residence the victim and Seijas again engaged in consensual kissing and fondling. Seijas expressed to the victim his desire to have sex with her and even acknowledged that he could get into trouble given their age difference. The victim stated that she didn't really want to have sex with Seijas, however she didn't object because she needed a place to stay for the night and possibly a ride to her grandmother's house later. Over the course of the night and in the morning the victim and Seijas engaged in three instances of consensual sex.

In the morning the victim told Seijas that she needed to return to her Grandmother's residence. Seijas walked with the victim much of the way there, leaving her a block or two away from her destination.

Once there the victim was confronted by her aunt and grandmother as to her whereabouts the night before. The victim told her aunt and grandmother that she had been out all night with someone and that she had sex with him. The victim's mother was informed of this and she took her daughter to the Santa Barbara Police Department on July 16, 2012, to report the incident. At SBPD the victim was put in contact with an advocate from the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center and arrangements were made for the victim to undergo a forensic medical examination.

After the initial report was made Officer Beecher and Officer Denbrook continued to investigate the case. On July 18, 2012, they obtained a search warrant for Seijas's residence and served it at 4:06 p.m. with the assistance of other officers. Seijas, however, was not there. On July 19, 2012, Officer Beecher and Officer Denbrook created a photo line-up to be shown to the victim, who was now back in Oakland. With help from officers from the Oakland Police Department, the victim was shown the line-up and she positively identified Seijas as the suspect. Officer Beecher and Officer Denbrook obtained an arrest warrant for Seijas for the aforementioned charges. Later that day Seijas called SBPD, concerned about the reason why his residence was searched. Seijas agreed to come to the Police Department to discuss the matter further.

Upon arrival Seijas spoke with Officer Beecher and Officer Denbrook outside of the Police Station. He acknowledged much of the events that transpired with the victim; however he denied having sex with her and stated that he thought she was 18 or 19-years old. Officer Beecher and Officer Denbrook arrested Seijas for the warrant that they had obtained and took him inside the Police Station where he was interviewed by Detective Brian Larson. In his interview with Detective Larson Seijas acknowledged that he had sex with the victim and that he was aware of her age.

Seijas was booked into Santa Barbara County Jail on the aforementioned charges with a bail amount of \$100,000.00.



Seijas, Carlos Albert

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